



"Isolation and insecurity can combine to kill you when you're starting out. I was a twenty-two year old plumber in Concord, New Hampshire, and had never met a writer, when I lugged my novel manuscript to Bread Loaf, hoping to get Nelson Algren to take a look and tell me I wasn't crazy. He did both, and that fueled me for the long haul. I have to believe it made me a writer."

—RUSSELL BANKS

"I came to Bread Loaf when I was 18 years old, a newcomer in this culture and this language. It was my first contact with a community of writers in this country, and it's where I first began to imagine that I could be a writer."

—JULIA ALVAREZ



"There is a notion, which has to do with the romantic hero image, that writing is pure genius, and you can't teach it. . . . Bread Loaf, in fact, has been going for a very long time and has a very good record of helping extremely talented writers to become solid artists."

—JOHN GARDNER

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Bread Loaf
WRITERS' CONFERENCE

Middlebury College
Middlebury, Vermont 05753

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Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE

AUGUST 10-20, 2011



Middlebury

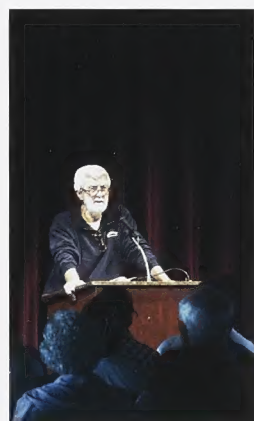
Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE



Jim Shepard's workshop gathers for a photo in front of Fritz Cottage.

AUGUST 10-20, 2011
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE



Stanley Plumly reads in the Little Theatre.

Founded in 1926, Bread Loaf is the oldest writers' conference in the country.

Every session, we welcome new Bread Loafers in the Little Theatre where, in 1928, Stephen Vincent Benét and Sinclair Lewis read from their work, and where, in 1945, Richard Wright introduced *Native Son* to a spellbound audience. Faculty and students confer in front of the huge fieldstone fireplace in the Barn where the young Eudora Welty bent over *A Curtain of Green* with her mentor, Katherine Anne Porter. One can hike trails where Robert Frost habitually tramped, noting how birch trees "bend to left and right / Across the lines of straighter darker trees," or play

tennis on the clay courts where Theodore Roethke played against Randall Jarrell while W. H. Auden looked on from a deep green Adirondack chair. Bread Loaf continues its rich literary and intellectual tradition by gathering a talented and diverse faculty—among them MacArthur fellows and winners of the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize—to work closely with developing writers. We invite you to experience the inspiration, the challenge, and the fun of Bread Loaf. It's a place to share manuscripts, get advice from experienced writers, and meet agents, editors, and the next generation of important writers.

THE PROGRAM

Writing workshops in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction are at the core of the curriculum. Each faculty member conducts a small workshop, most often of ten contributors, meeting for five two-hour sessions over the course of the Conference. All participants also meet individually with their workshop leaders to amplify and refine what was said in the workshop itself. Faculty offer lectures on writerly issues and one-hour classes on specific aspects of craft. Readings by faculty and guests are scheduled in the Little Theatre throughout the day and into the night. Guests in publishing—editors and literary agents—present information and answer questions. They also meet with Bread Loafers individually or in small groups.



Bread Loafers catch up near the Barn following morning workshops.

*Yusef Komunyakaa advises
Zeeshan Pathan on his
manuscript.*



APPLICATIONS

- You may apply to the Conference by submitting a writing sample along with an application. There is no application fee. You are also welcome to apply as an auditor. All applications and supporting materials are accepted online, except for some financial aid applications that require a hardcopy of supporting materials in addition to the online application.
- We offer a variety of financial aid based on published work and/or literary promise.
- Conference deadlines: All applications, including fellowship, financial aid, general contributor, and auditor, must be submitted by March 1. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early.
- Conference fees: \$2,620 general contributors; \$2,510 auditors. Includes room and board.
- Please visit our Web site or contact us for more information:

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Telephone: 802.443.5286; Fax: 802.443.2087
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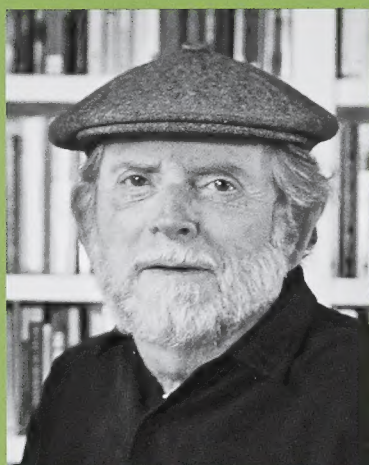
LODGING AND MEALS

Bread Loafers are housed on the mountain campus of Middlebury College in Ripton, Vermont, in the Bread Loaf Inn and its cluster of cottages and buildings. Most rooms on campus are doubles and baths are shared. Meals are served in the dining room of the Inn. There's a well-stocked salad bar, and vegetarian options are available. A list of local rentals is available to those who prefer off-campus housing and meals.

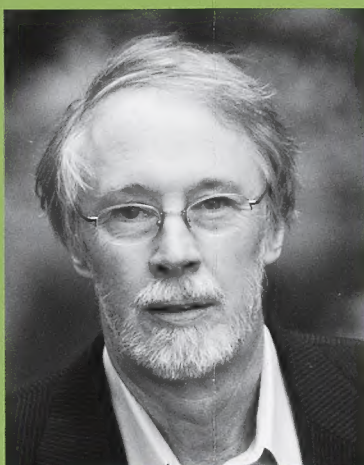
Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE

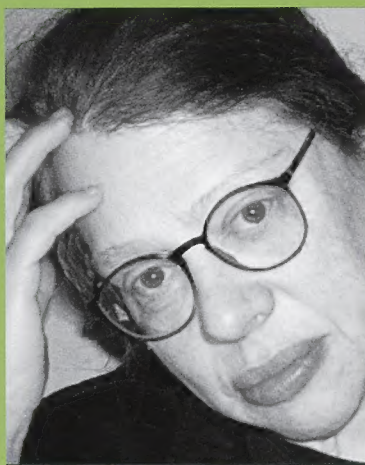
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Richard Bausch



Charles Baxter



Marianne Boruch



Jane Brox



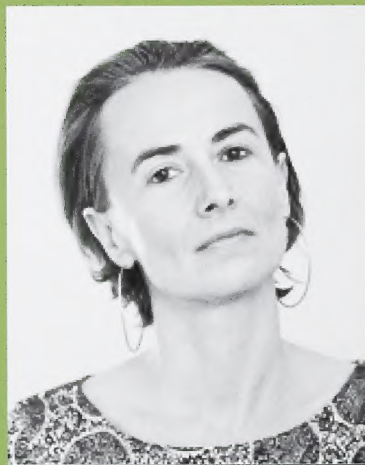
Maud Casey



Ted Conover



Peter Ho Davies



Stacey D'Erasmus



Louise Glück



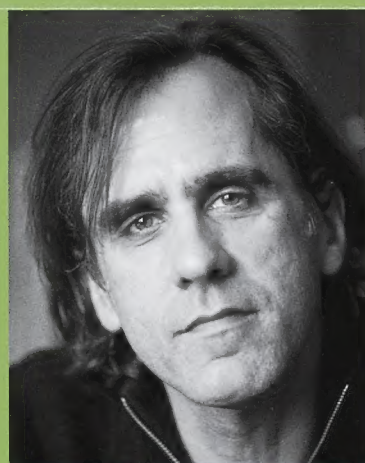
A. Van Jordan



Randall Kenan



Chang-rae Lee



James Longenbach



Sigrid Nunez



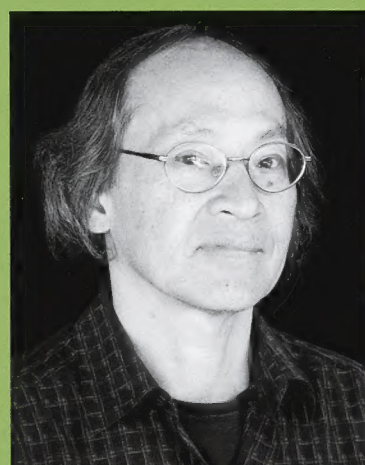
Joanna Scott



David Shields



Tom Sleigh



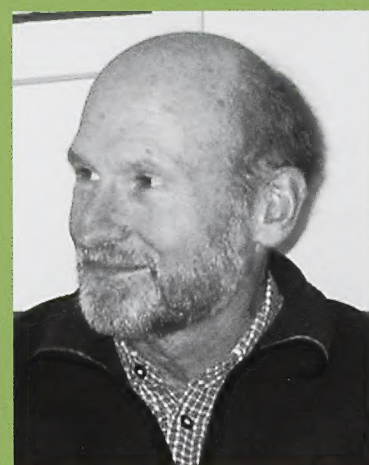
Arthur Sze



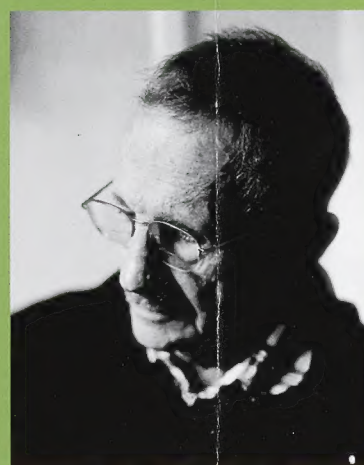
Luis Alberto Urrea



Ellen Bryant Voigt



John Elder, special guest



Philip Levine, special guest

Middlebury

Michael Collier, Director
Jennifer Grotz, Assistant Director

For more information contact:

Noreen Cargill, Administrative Manager
Bread Loaf Writers' Conference

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